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**Re: Emboli Rate During an Early After Carotid Endarterectomy After a Single Preoperative Dose of 120 mg Acetylsalicylic Acid—A Prospective Double-blind Placebo Controlled Randomized Trial by Tytgat *et al.* Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg 2005;29:156–161**

I read with interest the paper by Tytgat *et al.* that the single dose of 120 mg acetylsalicylic acid does not influence the embolic rate as assessed by transcranial Doppler during carotid artery surgery. The conclusion seems valid. As the authors quote our study as a background and also compare our results and why they differ a point of clarification seems proper. The

authors state that 'in carotid surgery, a single dose of ASA administered the evening before surgery has been reported to reduce neurological events'.<sup>1</sup> Our study was, however, not designed to look at a single dose but the patients were treated for 6 months and the evaluation of neurological outcome was performed during that period. I agree with the authors that it is of theoretical interest to analyse how a single dose of ASA preoperatively influences Doppler detected perioperative embolization, but our aim was to analyze whether half a year of ASA prophylaxis influenced the clinical outcome during a period when the risk of neurological complications is highest—and in fact it did.

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